

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on April 2, 2008 the Examiner rejected claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by either Fan et al. (U.S. 5,838,653) or Faris (U.S. 5,353,247). Upon entry of the claim amendments set forth above, Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 remain pending in this application. Claim 1 is independent. Claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 depend from claim 1. Applicants have cancelled Claims 2, 5 and 8-20, but reserve the right to pursue such claims in continuation or other related applications.

Claim 1 claims an **optically-readable medium with at least one cholesteric liquid crystal material in the optical path of the reading beam and a wavelength shifting material that shifts the reflection wavelength band of the cholesteric liquid crystal in response to a predetermined stimulus to permanently and irreversibly limit the number of times the medium can be read.** Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, at Paragraphs 17, 18, 23 and 38 in the specification.

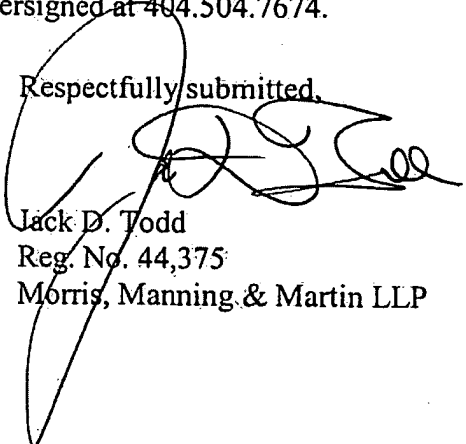
Neither Fan et al. or Faris disclose an irreversible change of the cholesteric liquid crystal material such that the data stored on the optically readable medium becomes permanently inaccessible and thus unreadable by the reading beam. In addition, neither Fan et al. or Faris disclose a **wavelength shifting material in combination with a cholesteric liquid crystal material that shifts the reflection wavelength band of the cholesteric liquid crystal in response to a predetermined stimulus to permanently and irreversibly limit the number of times the medium can be read.** Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is distinguishable from and not anticipated by either Fan et al. or Faris.

Claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 depend from claim 1. Therefore, for the same reasons claim 1 is patentable over Fan et al. or Faris, claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 are also distinguishable and patentable.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed April 2, 2008. Applicants and the undersigned thank the Examiner for considering these remarks. If the Examiner believes that any issues exist that can be resolved by telephone conference, or that any formalities exist that can be corrected by an Examiner's Amendment, please contact the undersigned at 404.504.7674.

Respectfully submitted,



Jack D. Todd
Reg. No. 44,375
Morris, Manning & Martin LLP

Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP
1600 Atlanta Financial Center
3343 Peachtree Road, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
Phone: 404.233.7000
Fax: 404.365.9532